

1           1.    A device comprising:  
2                    an optics element to facilitate viewing;  
3                    an image sensor to capture frames;  
4                    a storage to store a sequence of frames of  
5 predetermined duration, said storage coupled to said  
6 sensor;  
7                    a display coupled to said storage to display the  
8 sequence of frames; and  
9                    a controller to automatically store successive  
10 sequences of frames of predetermined duration including an  
11 earlier and later sequence, said controller to store a  
12 later sequence of frames in said storage, automatically  
13 overwriting an earlier sequence of frames.

1           2.    The device of claim 1 wherein said controller  
2 stores a first sequence of frames and, at the end of the  
3 first sequence, loops back to the beginning of the first  
4 sequence and overwrites the first sequence of frames with a  
5 second sequence of frames.

1           3.    The device of claim 1 wherein said storage has  
2 the capacity to store an integral number of sequences of  
3 frames of predetermined duration.

1           4.    The device of claim 3 wherein said storage has a  
2   capacity to store substantially only one sequence of frames  
3   of predetermined duration.

1           5.    The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a  
2   camera.

1           6.    The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a  
2   telescope.

1           7.    The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a  
2   microscope.

1           8.    The device of claim 1 wherein said device is  
2   binoculars.

1           9.    The device of claim 1 wherein said optics element  
2   includes a beam splitter, said beam splitter arranged to  
3   reflect light from said display and said image sensor.

1           10.   The device of claim 9 including a shutter to  
2   control viewing access to said optics element.

1           11.   The device of claim 1 wherein said device  
2   selectively enables the user to view said display or a  
3   scene through said optics element.

1        12. The device of claim 1 wherein said optics element  
2 is in light communication with said image sensor and the  
3 only way to view a scene through said optics element is by  
4 way of said display.

1        13. The device of claim 1 wherein said controller  
2 enables the user to select when to display a sequence of  
3 frames of predetermined duration.

1        14. A method comprising:  
2            recording a sequence of frames of predetermined  
3 duration;  
4            overwriting said recorded sequence of frames with  
5 an ensuing sequence of frames of substantially the same  
6 duration; and  
7            in response to user selection, enabling the user  
8 to view a recorded sequence of frames.

1        15. The method of claim 14 including storing a first  
2 sequence of frames of predetermined duration and, at the  
3 end of said first sequence, looping back to the beginning  
4 of the first sequence and overwriting said first sequence  
5 with a second sequence of frames.

1           16. The method of claim 14 including storing a  
2 integral number of sequences of frames of predetermined  
3 duration.

1           17. The method of claim 14 including enabling the  
2 user to selectively view a scene or a recorded sequence of  
3 frames of predetermined duration.

1           18. The method of claim 14 including displaying a  
2 real time image on a display and selectively enabling the  
3 user to replace the real time display with the display of a  
4 stored sequence of frames.

1           19. An article comprising a medium storing  
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to:  
3               record a sequence of frames of predetermined  
4 duration;  
5               overwrite said recorded sequence of frames with  
6 an ensuing sequence of frames of substantially the same  
7 duration; and  
8               in response to user selection, enable the user to  
9 view a recorded sequence of frames.

1           20. The article of claim 19 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 store a first sequence of frames of predetermined duration

4 and, at the end of said first sequence, loop back to the  
5 beginning of the first sequence and overwrite said first  
6 sequence with a second sequence of frames.

1 21. The article of claim 19 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 store an integral number of sequences of frames of  
4 predetermined duration.

1 22. The article of claim 19 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 enable the user to selectively view a scene or a recorded  
4 sequence of frames of predetermined duration.

1 23. The article of claim 19 further storing  
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to  
3 display a real time image on a display or selectively  
4 enable the user to replace the real time display with the  
5 display of a stored sequence of frames.